

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The present invention is a system and method for rapid network failure detection, identification and notification to internet users. It is particularly applicable to VoIP applications where such real-time problem identification is particularly valuable. It reduces failure detection time by coordinating the sending frequency of RTP and RTCP packets. These incoming packets are monitored and the failure to receive a predetermined number in a specified time window indicates that a network problem has occurred. This problem is then promptly communicated to users of the system.